

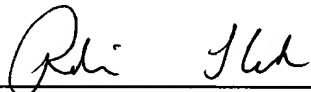
**REMARKS**

Claims 1 to 9 have been cancelled, and rewritten as new Claims 10 to 15, in order to better emphasize preferred embodiments of the invention.

Favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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